

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****Patent and Trademark Office**Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
10/822,690	4-13-2004	Hechler IV	740944-21

EXAMINER	
P. LEUNG	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3742	50915

DATE MAILED:

**INTERVIEW SUMMARY**

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

- (1) Mr. John Guay (3) Mr. Philip Leung  
(2) Mr. David May (4) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Interview 9-15-2005Type: ☐ Telephonic ☒ Personal (copy is given to ☐ applicant ☒ applicant's representative).Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: ☒ Yes ☐ No If yes, brief description: A model showing the invention as disclosed is shown.Agreement ☒ was reached. ☐ was not reached.Claim(s) discussed: cls 1 and 15Identification of prior art discussed: Out of record

Description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: Attorney agreed to amend cls 1 & 15 to include "a mechanism" or "device" to perform the function of "removably suspended" between the neck and the lid. ~~For the~~ Attorney will send in informal amendment to the claims.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments, if available, which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments which would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

1. ☒ It is not necessary for applicant to provide a separate record of the substance of the interview.

Unless the paragraph above has been checked to indicate to the contrary, A FORMAL WRITTEN RESPONSE TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION IS NOT WAIVED AND MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04): If a response to the last Office action has been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW.

2. ☐ Since the Examiner's interview summary above (including any attachments) reflects a complete response to each of the objections, rejections and requirements that may be present in the last Office action, and since the claims are now allowable, this completed form is considered to fulfill the response requirements of the last Office action. Applicant is not relieved from providing a separate record of the interview unless box 1 above is also checked.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an attachment to another form.

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September 16, 2005

Mr. Philip H. Leung  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3742  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Application No. 10/822,690  
For: "*An Apparatus for Cooking Bacon and the Like*"  
Confirmation No.: 2927  
Our Reference: 740944-21

Dear Examiner Leung,

Thank you for taking the time to meet with us yesterday and for your suggested amendments for the claims in connection with the above-identified application. We discussed this matter with the applicant, Mr. Hechler, who agrees to your suggested amendments and appreciates your help in this matter.

You are hereby authorized to make amendments to the claims, by way of an examiner's amendment, as indicated on the following pages. It is Applicant's understanding that these amendments should place the application in condition for immediate allowance.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 202-585-8298.

Very best regards,  
NIXON PEABODY LLP

John F. Guay  
Reg. No. 47,248

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JFG  
Enclosure

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**PROPOSED AMENDMENT BASED ON PERSONAL INTERVIEW OF  
SEPTEMBER 15, 2005, WITH PRIMARY EXAMINER LEUNG**

1. (Currently amended) A microwavable cooking apparatus for cooking bacon and the like, comprising:

a container, said container having at least one container sidewall, an inner and outer surface, an open end, and a laterally projecting rim at the open end defining a rim undersurface;

a lid; and

a cooking rack, wherein said cooking rack comprises:

mechanism for removeably suspended suspending said cooking rack from said  
lid[[,]]; and

~~said cooking rack comprising~~ a plurality of radially extending vanes ~~said cooking~~  
~~rack being~~ dimensioned to fit within said container.

2. (Previously presented) The microwavable apparatus of claim 1, wherein said lid includes a bore defined by a bore wall.

3. (Previously presented) The microwavable apparatus of claim 2, wherein a plurality of tabs extend laterally from said bore wall into said bore.

4. (Original) The microwavable cooking apparatus of claim 1, wherein a portion of the top wall of said lid is substantially dome-shaped.

5. (Original) The microwavable cooking apparatus of claim 1, wherein a handle is connected to said lid.

6. (Original) The microwavable apparatus of claim 5, wherein a first portion of said handle projects laterally from said lid and a second portion of the handle projects downward from

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the distal end of said first portion of said handle.

7. (Previously presented) The microwavable apparatus of claim 1, wherein a plurality of container locks are mounted on said lid for movement between a locked position and an unlocked position.

8. (Previously presented) The microwavable cooking apparatus of claim 7, wherein said container locks each include a cam section which engages said rim undersurface and forces said the inner surface of said container against the lid when the container locks are in the locked position.

9. (Previously presented) The microwavable cooking apparatus of claim 7, wherein said lid comprises a lock mount for each container lock, a cam opening formed in said lock mount, each said container lock being mounted for pivotal movement on said lock mount and including a cam section which extends through the cam opening in said lock mount outer wall, said cam section operating to engage the undersurfaces of said rim against said body in the locked position of the container lock.

10. (Original) The microwavable cooking apparatus of claim 7, wherein each said container lock includes an operating lever connected to pivot said container lock between the locked and unlocked positions.

11. (Previously presented) The microwavable cooking apparatus of claim 10, wherein said operating lever includes a clasp dimensioned to securely engage the outer sidewall of said lid, when said container lock is in the locked position.

12. (Original) The microwavable cooking apparatus of claim 1, wherein the plurality of radially extending vanes are spaced substantially equidistant from one another.

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13. (Currently amended) The microwavable cooking apparatus of claim 2, wherein said mechanism includes a stem dimensioned to fit ~~cooking rack is removeably suspended by a stem~~ within said bore.

14. (Currently amended) The microwavable cooking apparatus of claim 3, wherein said mechanism ~~cooking rack~~ includes a stem positioned within said bore, said stem comprising a plurality of radially extending vanes, and wherein said cooking rack is suspended to said lid by the plurality of radially extending vanes of said stem being engaged with said tabs.

15. (Currently amended) A microwavable cooking apparatus for cooking bacon and the like, comprising:

an outer container, said outer container having at least one container sidewall, an inner and outer surface, and an open end ~~and a laterally projecting rim at the container open end defining a rim undersurface;~~

an inner container, said inner container having at least one container sidewall, an inner and outer surface, and an open end and a laterally projecting rim at the container open end defining a rim undersurface, wherein at least a portion of said inner container is dimensioned to fit within said outer container;

a lid; and

a cooking rack, wherein said cooking rack comprises:

mechanism for removeably suspended suspending said cooking rack from said lid[.]; and

~~said cooking rack being comprised of~~ a plurality of radially extending vanes and dimensioned to fit within said inner container.

16. (Original) The microwavable cooking apparatus of claim 15, wherein said outer container covers a predefined portion of said inner container, and wherein a microwave reflecting surface is positioned between said outer container and said inner container.

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17. (Original) The microwavable cooking apparatus of claim 16, wherein a vacuum seal is formed between said outer container and said inner container.

18. (Previously presented) The microwavable apparatus of claim 15, wherein said lid includes a bore defined by a bore wall.

19. (Previously presented) The microwavable apparatus of claim 18, a plurality of tabs extend laterally from said bore wall into said bore.

20. (Previously presented) The microwavable cooking apparatus of claim 15, wherein at least a portion of the top surface of said lid is substantially dome-shaped.

21. (Previously presented) The microwavable cooking apparatus of claim 15, wherein a handle is connected to said lid.

22. (Original) The microwavable apparatus of claim 21, wherein a first portion of said handle projects laterally from said lid and a second portion of the handle projects downward from the distal end of said first portion of said handle.

23. (Previously presented) The microwavable apparatus of claim 15, wherein a plurality of container locks are mounted on said lid for movement between a locked position and an unlocked position.

24. (Previously presented) The microwavable cooking apparatus of claim 15, wherein said container locks each include a cam section which engages said rim undersurface and forces said the inner surface of said container against the lid when the container locks are in the locked position.

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25. (Previously presented) The microwavable cooking apparatus of claim 15, wherein said lid comprises a lock mount for each container lock, a cam opening formed in said lock mount, each said container lock being mounted for pivotal movement on said lock mount and including a cam section which extends through the cam opening in said lock mount, said cam section operating to engage the undersurfaces of said rim against said body in the locked position of the container lock.

26. (Original) The microwavable cooking apparatus of claim 23, wherein each said container lock includes an operating lever connected to pivot said container lock between the locked and unlocked positions.

27. (Previously presented) The microwavable cooking apparatus of claim 26, wherein said operating lever includes a clasp dimensioned to securely engage the outer sidewall of said lid when said container lock is in the locked position.

28. (Original) The microwavable cooking apparatus of claim 15, wherein the plurality of radially extending vanes are spaced substantially equidistant from one another.

29. (Currently amended) The microwavable cooking apparatus of claim 18, wherein said ~~cooking rack mechanism includes removably suspended by~~ a stem positioned to fit within said bore.

30. (Currently amended) The microwavable cooking apparatus of claim 19, wherein said ~~mechanism~~ ~~cooking rack~~ includes a stem positioned within said bore, said stem comprising a plurality of radially extending vanes, and wherein said cooking rack is suspended to said lid by a the plurality of radially extending vanes of said stem being engaged with said tabs.

31. (Canceled)

32. (Canceled)



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33. (Canceled)

34. (Canceled)

35. (Original) The microwavable apparatus of claim 1, wherein two container locks are mounted on said lid for movement between a locked position and an unlocked position, said container locks being positioned such that in the locked position the container sidewall has an elliptical distortion.

36. (Original) The microwavable apparatus of claim 15, wherein two container locks are mounted on said lid for movement between a locked position and an unlocked position, said container locks being positioned such that in the locked position the container sidewall has an elliptical distortion.

37. (Original) The microwavable apparatus of claim 7, wherein at least one laterally projecting arm is coupled to at least one of said plurality of container locks, and wherein said at least one laterally projecting arm engages at least one of the container sidewall and the container rim when the lock is in the locked position.

38. (Original) The microwavable apparatus of claim 23, wherein at least one laterally projecting arm is coupled to at least one of said plurality of container locks, and wherein said at least one laterally projecting arm engages at least one of the container sidewall and the container rim when the lock is in the locked position.

39. (Original) The microwavable apparatus of claim 1, wherein at least one of the inner surface and the outer surface of said container is at least partially covered with microwave reflecting surface.

40. (Original) The microwavable apparatus of claim 15, wherein at least one of the inner surface of said inner container, the outer surface of said inner container, the inner surface of said

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outer container, and the outer surface of said outer container is at least partially covered with microwave reflecting surface.

41. (Original) The microwavable apparatus of claim 39, wherein said microwave reflecting surface is aluminum foil.

42. (Original) The microwavable apparatus of claim 40, wherein said microwave reflecting surface is aluminum foil.

43. (Previously presented) The microwaveable apparatus of claim 9, wherein one end of said container lock is enlarged to deter involuntary removal of container lock from said lock mount, and wherein said enlarged end of container lock has a split end, said split end being compressible to facilitate voluntary removal of said container lock from said lock mount.

44. (Previously presented) The microwaveable apparatus of claim 25, wherein one end of said container lock is enlarged to deter involuntary removal of container lock from said lock mount, and wherein said enlarged end of container lock has a split end, said split end being compressible to facilitate voluntary removal of said container lock from said lock mount.